

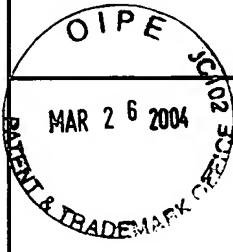
**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))**

Docket No.
WSP219US

In Re Application Of: **WEISBRODT et al.**

Serial No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Group Art Unit
10/696,840	10/30/2003	N/A	3676

Title: **FLAT SEALING RING**



Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

37 CFR 1.97(b)

1. The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

2. The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

OR

the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
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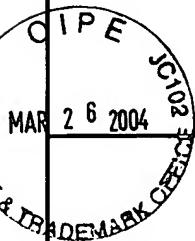
Serial No.
10/696,840

Filing Date
10/30/2003

Examiner
N/A

Group Art Unit
3676

FLAT SEALING RING



Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account 50-0822 as described below.
 Charge the amount of _____
 Credit any overpayment.
 Charge any additional fee required.

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I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No.) on _____

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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on March 24, 2004 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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C. Paul Maliszewski, P.E.

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*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.

Signature

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Registration No. 51,990

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CPM/KRB

CC:

Dated: March 24, 2004



**U.S. UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. WSP219US**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
In the Matter of United States Patent Application:

Applicant(s): Weisbrodt et al.

Examiner: N/A

Application No.: 10/696,840

Art Unit: 3676

Filed: October 30, 2003

For: FLAT SEALING RING

Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail

I certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited on March 24, 2004 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. §1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

C. Paul Maliszewski, P.E.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Honorable Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98.

Record is attached of published art for consideration during prosecution of the above-identified patent application. No representation is made or intended that a search has been made or, if made, was complete, or that no more pertinent art than that listed is available. It is expected

that the Patent and Trademark Office will conduct an independent search for relevant prior art.

Unless otherwise indicated, or unless references cited are U.S. patents or patent application publications, a full text copy of the entire reference of published art is attached. Where specifically indicated, an equivalent English language patent or publication is attached in lieu of the translation.

In accordance with the Patent and Trademark Office Notice of August 15, 1980, also enclosed is a completed Form PTO-A820 (Form PTO-1449).

Also, according to 1.98(a)(3)(i), a concise explanation is listed below, as it is presently understood, of each foreign patent document not in the English language.

Please consider the following published art:

German Utility Model No. DE 29909268U1, September 9, 1999, is cited and discussed at page 2, paragraph 4 of the specification;

German Utility Model No. DE 29909270U1, September 9, 1999, is cited and discussed at page 2, paragraph 4 of the specification.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: March 24, 2004

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Enclosures (3)

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.